

DuPont Pioneer Externship





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Part I: Overview of Business

Pioneer Hi-Bred is a DuPont business. And while we now serve customers in more than 90 countries, we're headquartered in Iowa – right where we have been since 1926.

Pioneering Science

We use the science of the lab and the land to maximize productivity and sustainability of the world's farmland.

Partnering

We strive to do what's right – operating with fairness, honesty and openness with all stakeholders from customers and business partners to employees and investors.

Creating Value

Our unparalleled customer service creates value for farmers worldwide.

Part III: Introduce the Problem

The teams that I was a part of were building applications that were used by researchers to conduct experiments. There are many layers, some connected, others not, that needed to come together for the application to successfully enter production.

Part V: Business Solution

The problem is on-going. One year into the project, the application is almost ready for complete demo but no where near ready for production. This is a fluid process with a series of small accomplishments on the way toward completing the entire application in another year or two.

Part II: Job Specifics

I was a member of 2-3 scrum teams where I participated in daily "stand-ups", sprint planning, pointing sessions, sprint review, etc. I was introduced to the lab and given the task of creating storyboards that would help explain the new processes in a simple way. The visual representations of the processes was a wish list item that this group wanted to help those involved with this project to see clearly what to expect.

Part IV: Background

Communication is the number one skill I could see the student needing for this problem. In a project, all members involved need to be on the same page. The goal is to complete work as efficiently and accurately as possible.

Communicating impediments is an integral part of the process. When problems arise, it is best to acknowledge and address them asap.

Part VI: Student Solutions

Students need to understand that very seldom in life are you working in isolation or for yourself. Being a member of a team requires you to to have organization and communication skills. Teams are wanting people who are easy to work with and have good personalities. You must be willing to adjust and bend rather than be rigid and stern.